## **YELLOW PERCH**

(06/06 ARCHIVE - NCDMF)

**Stock Status** - *Concern* - Significant increase in effort and landings since 1991. Fish are targeted during the winter and early spring during spawning. Yellow perch populations are rather system specific and have been heavily targeted in certain systems. Harvest is 69% below the 10-year average. Federal aid project F-80 began in March 2004 to fulfill data needs for upcoming Fishery Management Plan. Data are not yet sufficient to evaluate status.

Average Commercial Landings and Value 1996-2005 - 74,869 lbs./\$70,883

**2005 Commercial Landings and Value** – 23,254 lbs./\$28,488

Average Recreational Landings 1996-2005 - Unknown 2005 - Unknown

Average Number of Award Citations 1996-2005 - N/A 2005 - N/A

Average Recreational Commercial Gear Landings for 1996-2005 - N/A 2005 - N/A

Status of Fisheries Management Plan - No state or federal plan. State plan schedule 2010-2012

**Data/Research Needs** - All types of fishery dependent and independent data.

Current Regulations (2006) - None

Harvest Season - Open year round

**Size and Age at Maturity -** Males - 5 inches/2 years, Females - 6 inches/3-4 years.

Historical Maximum Age - 13 years

Juvenile Abundance Index 2004 – 0.8, 2005 – 0.4

**Habits/Habitats** -Spawning occurs in rivers and creeks from late January to early March, depending on water temperatures. Eggs are laid in a sticky gelatinous mass. Eggs will hatch into fry in 2-3 weeks, depending on water temperatures. The young form schools and utilize the rivers as a nursery area, as do the adults.

For more information, see <u>DMF Species Leads page</u>